

Academic Airframe Icing Perspective



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NASA Glenn

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Introduction

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- **What research do we need?**
 - 3-D Ice accretion and aerodynamics
 - Systems-based multidisciplinary research
- **But first:**
 - Some philosophy on university research
 - Some icing research history and lessons learned
- **Then to 3-D and multidisciplinary research**



Why University Research?

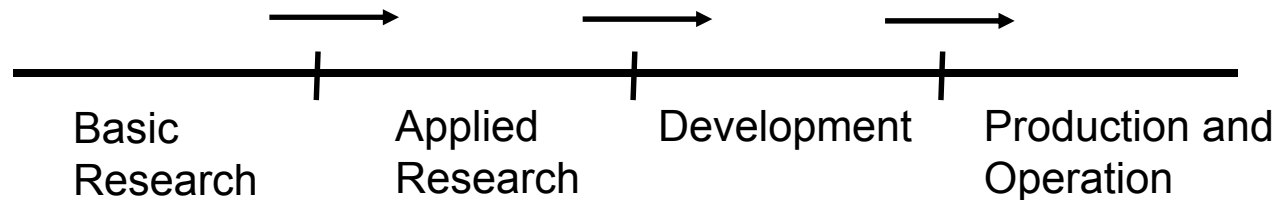
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- The best university researcher strives to have **Impact** in many dimensions:
 - New discoveries
 - Graduate education
 - Contribution to society
 - Economic development
- University researchers think of research in MS and Ph.D “units”
- University research can be both applied and fundamental

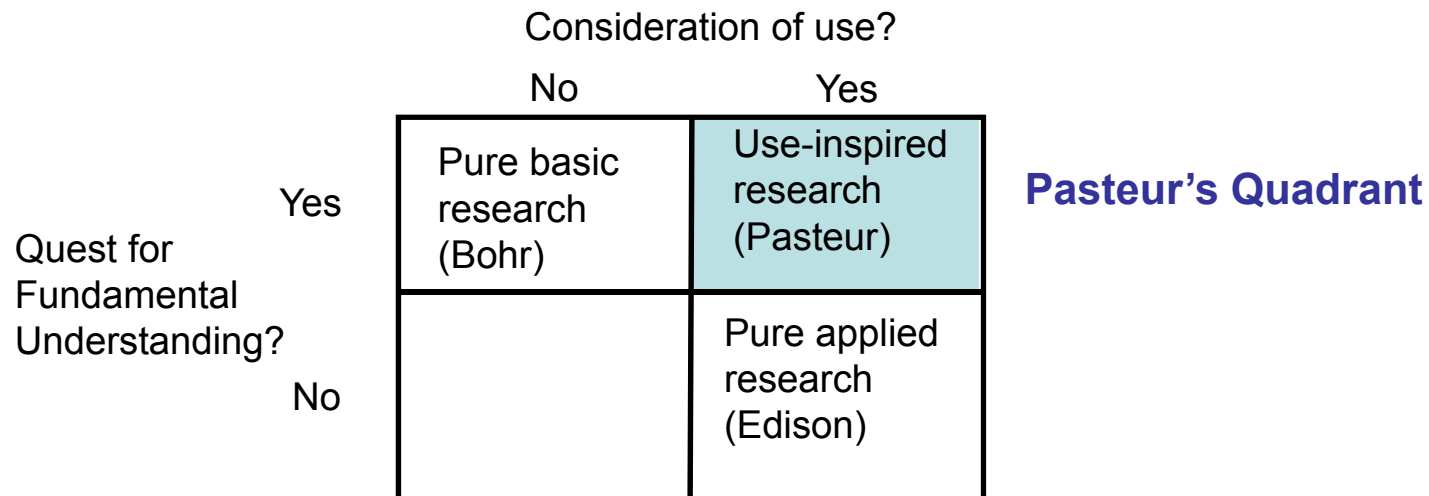
Basic versus Applied Research

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- **Traditional Research Continuum**



- **Quadrant Model of Research**



From "Pasteur's Quadrant" by Donald E. Stokes

2-D Airfoil Icing Aerodynamics

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NASA/university 2-D iced-airfoil aerodynamics

- **Evolving goals as we learned more and motivation changed (1980 – 2008)**
 - Understanding of ice accretion effect on lift and drag
 - Support for CFD development and validation
 - Understand iced-airfoil physics
 - Roselawn accident focused us on “use”
 - Aircraft control and more 3-D
 - Effect of airfoil and ice-shape geometry
 - Understanding Re and M effects
 - Ice accretion aero classification and simulation

Aerodynamic Techniques

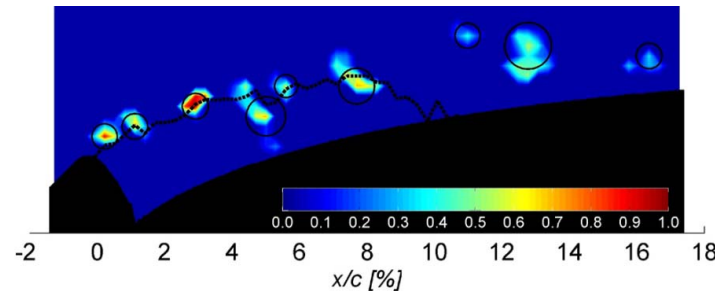
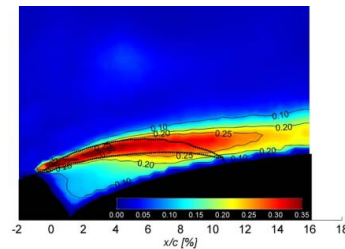
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Initial techniques

- Relatively simple steady RANS
- Simple small-scale experiments with large horn ice at low Re

Current techniques

- 3-D unsteady RANS/LES methods
- Pressure tunnels at near-flight Re and M, multiple ice shapes, advance measurement techniques including PIV



What did we learn from 2-D aerodynamics?

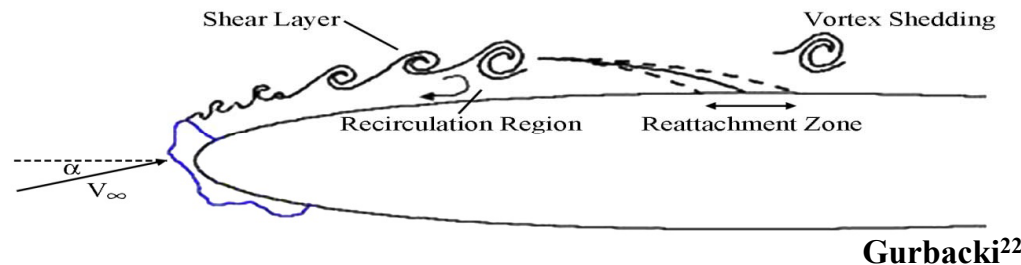
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Process

- Re and M important to understand but low-Re data are valuable and provide a cost-effective research method for many cases
- Flowfield understanding critical in reducing “matrix” and understanding simulation
- Flow separation is key and is always unsteady and 3-D
- Roselawn and considering “use” or application led to more focused and **productive** research programs

Physics

- An understanding of the basic relationships between airfoil geometry, ice-accretion geometry, and iced-airfoil aerodynamics and aerodynamic performance including control was accomplished with some fundamental understanding of the flow



Gurbacki²²

2-D Icing

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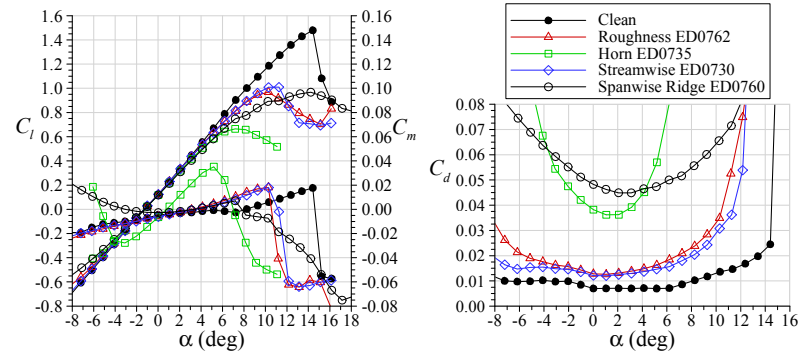
- **Ice Accretion Physics**

- Droplet trajectory calculations well understood
- Basic surface water transport and bulk ice growth is understood
- LEWICE does a good job within its 2-D validation data set



- **Iced-Airfoil Aerodynamics**

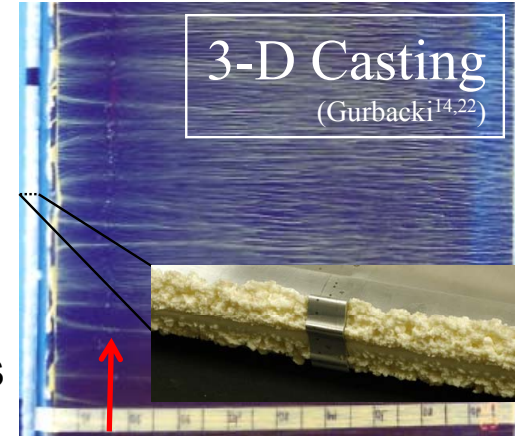
- Understand basic flowfield and gross aerodynamics for the four identified ice shape categories
- Simulation ice shape methods identified and validated
- RANS does a reasonable job with gross aerodynamics



The 3-D Icing Problem

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- **Ice accretion**
 - 3-D ice accretion have been observed and documented
 - Scallops have been studied, resulting in a foundation of experimental understanding
 - Fundamental processes in 3-D are not understood well enough for reliable models
- **Aerodynamics**
 - Flow separation including shear layer development is the fundamental flow feature and it is 3-D and unsteady
 - RANS insufficient but full 3-D and unsteady cost/resource prohibitive
 - No 3-D experimental data at near-flight Re and M



3-D Ice Accretion

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- **Goals**
 - Understand basic physical processes underlying aircraft icing.
 - Create simplified engineering tools.
 - Understand the accuracy of the engineering tools.

- **What is needed?**
 - Growth mechanisms for complex 3-D accretions (scallops, etc.)
 - Simulation methods for complex 3-D accretions
 - Nonlinear coupled interactions (droplets splashing, surface water transport, impact freezing, etc.)

3-D Ice Accretion (cont.)

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Approach

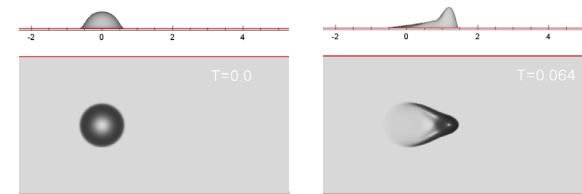
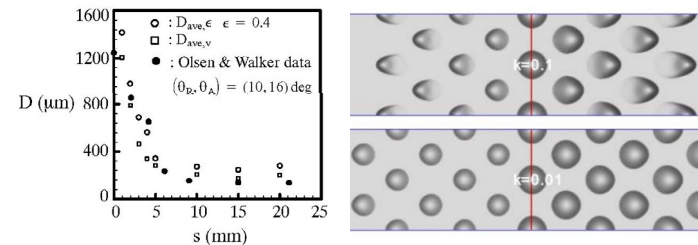
- Understand the basic physical processes underlying aircraft icing:
 - Develop a foundation of understanding based on experiments.
 - Develop detailed physical models which explain the experiments.
- Use icing physics knowledge to help create simplified ice accretion engineering tools.
- Understand the processes which limit the accuracy of the engineering tools.

Example – Surface Physics

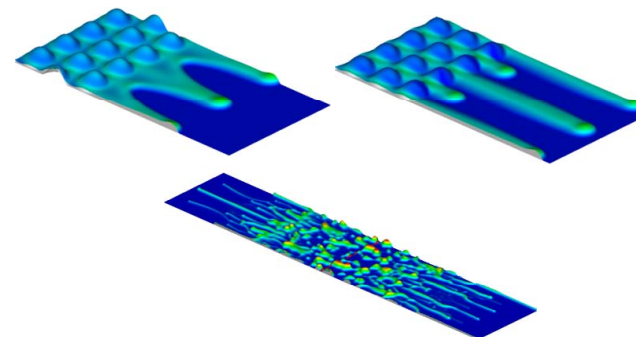
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- Basic water transport can be handled using simple models.
- Ice surface roughness can be explained by heat transfer driven instability of the ice surface.
- There is a need to better understand more complex 3-D nonlinear interactions:
 - Growth of complex ice shapes. Nonlinear coupling of droplet impacts, unsteady aerodynamics past complex 3-D ice/water shapes, water transport, and complex ice growth. Coupling to rapid phase transitions when crossing from rime to glaze icing, etc.
- NASA VIST facility and icing physics experiments are important steps to resolve these issues.

Water bead runback



Rivulet interaction with roughness



Source: Rothmayer, Matheis, Otta, Tsao, Wang

3-D Icing Aerodynamics

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- **Goals**

- Basic understanding of 3-D iced wing flowfield
- Simulation methods and a small-scale, low-Re capability
- Computational methods that accurately predict C_{lmax} and control deflection effects

- **What is needed?**

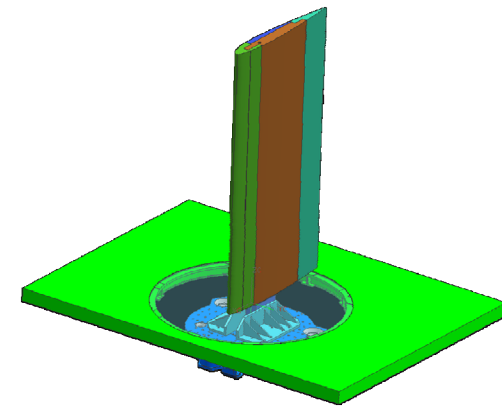
- Iced-wing data at high Reynolds number and flight M
- Data for code development and validation
- Unsteady, RANS/LES method development
- Key features: unsteady separated flow, shear-layer development, transition

3-D Icing Aerodynamics

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- **Approach**

- Fundamental studies to aid understanding of key flow phenomena
- Development of advanced CFD methods
- High-Re data on representative geometries
- Validation of CFD methods
- Experimental and computational tools for practical problems



Example – Hybrid RANS/LES

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• Observations

- RANS, while highly efficient, requires a high degree of phenomenological modeling, which limits its applicability
- LES, which models fewer of the turbulent scales, is prohibitively expensive in aero boundary layers

• Current general consensus

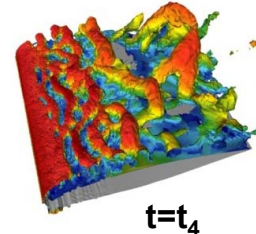
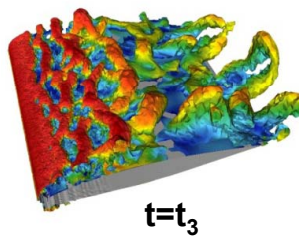
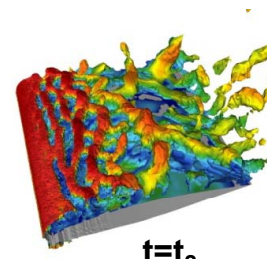
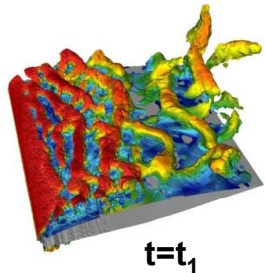
- Valid for massively separated flows
- Problematic for aerodynamically-relevant flows

• Basic idea

- Use RANS in regions of attached flow
 - Consistent with modeling the Reynolds stress
- Use LES in regions of separated flow
 - Consistent with modeling the subgrid stress
- Implicit zonal boundary
 - Achieved through a dynamically-varying eddy viscosity

DES for extruded GLC305/944 ice shape

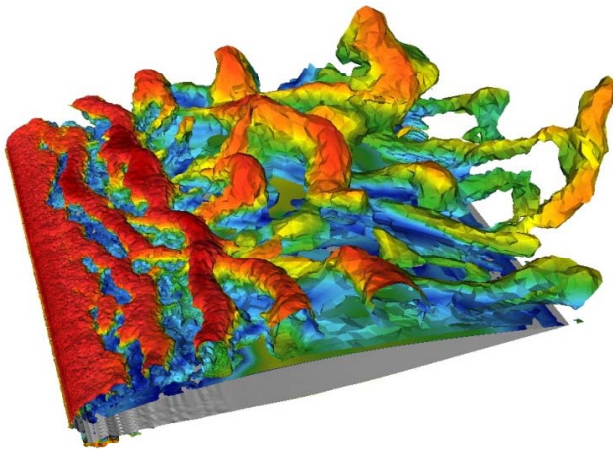
- Selected time steps show development of characteristic “loop” vortices



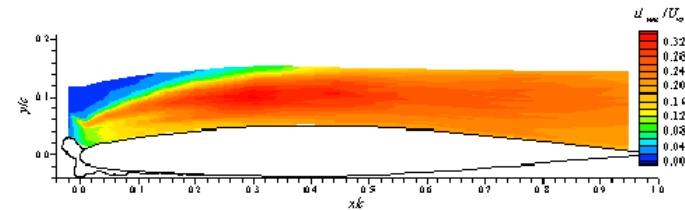
Example – Hybrid RANS/LES

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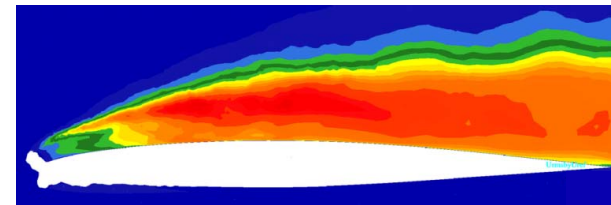
- **DES for extruded GLC305/944 ice shape**
 - Detached Eddy Simulation (DES) (specific form of hybrid RANS/LES)



Three-dimensional unsteady flow in separated region



Experimental data



DES results

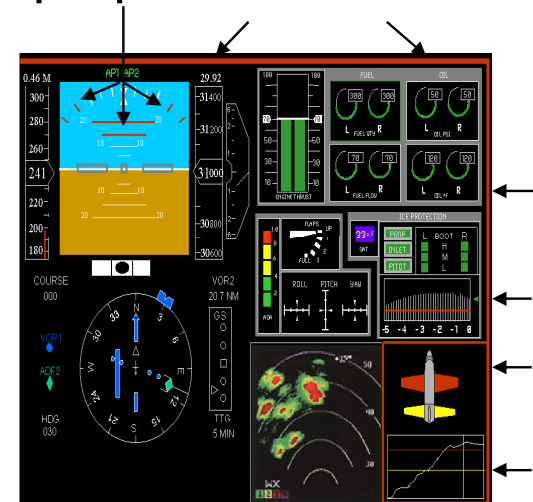
RMS of streamwise velocity fluctuations

Source: Mogili, Thompson (MSU), Choo, and Addy (NASA GRC)

Systems-based Multidisciplinary Research

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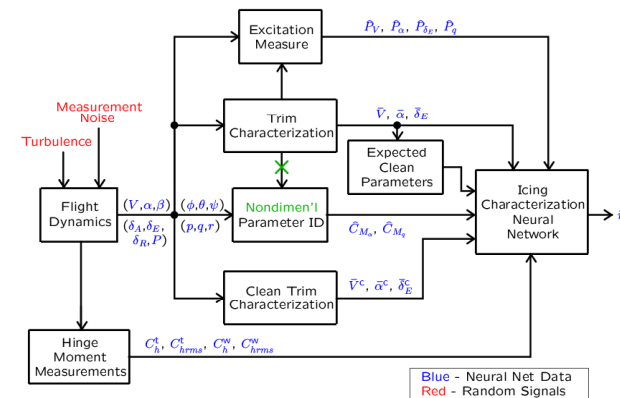
- **Example – Smart Icing Systems**
 - Combined human factors, controls, flight mechanics, and aerodynamics to address icing flight safety system
 - Systems to sense effect of ice accretion on aircraft and operate IPS, provide envelope protection, inform/advise pilot, etc
 - Systems, multidisciplinary approach provides integrated solutions and where needed helps guide new research



Systems-Based Multidisciplinary Research (cont.)

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- **Needed Multidisciplinary Research**
 - Couple ice accretion and ice protection modeling with aerodynamics and control
 - Couple flight mechanics, aerodynamics, sensing and flight mechanics and control
 - Bring atmospheric science and route planning into the problem of SLD protection
 - Include Human Factors and training into the research with flight simulation, ice accretion, and flight dynamics
 - Etc.



Summary

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- 2-D ice accretion and aerodynamics reasonably well understood for engineering applications
- To significantly improve our current capabilities we need to understand 3-D
 - Important ice accretion physics and modeling not well understood in 3-D
 - Aerodynamics unsteady and 3-D especially near stall
- Larger systems issues important and require multi-disciplinary team approach